



## Census and Economic Information Center

Montana Department of Commerce

Release Highlights: August 28, 2007

### MONTANA

#### Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance, 2006

<http://ceic.mt.gov/demographics.asp>

Montana's economy continues to chug along. Montanans are pocketing more income, and fewer are mired in poverty. However, more residents are without health insurance coverage. Montana's strong economy is reflected in the recent release of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2006 Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage report.

Montana realized the largest increase of its neighbors in the three-year average median household income between 2003-2005 and 2004-2006. In fact, Montana's increase of 6.7% ranked 4<sup>th</sup> nationally.

#### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

State	2003-2005	Rank	2004-2006	Rank	% Change
Idaho	\$44,994	26	\$46,395	28	3.1%
<b>Montana</b>	<b>\$36,200</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>\$38,629</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
North Dakota	\$41,869	38	\$42,162	38	0.7%
South Dakota	\$42,525	34	\$44,624	34	4.9%
Wyoming	\$45,598	24	\$47,227	24	3.6%

Montana's poverty rate for all ages shrank from 13.8% to 13.5% between 2005 and 2006. Every one of Montana's neighbors realized declines in their poverty rates, except North Dakota. Nationally, the change from 12.6% to 12.3% was statistically insignificant.

#### POVERTY RATE OF ALL AGES

State	2004	Rank	2005	Rank	2006	Rank
Idaho	9.9%	13	9.9%	12	9.5%	13
<b>Montana</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>37</b>
North Dakota	9.7%	11	11.2%	20	11.4%	28
South Dakota	13.4%	36	11.8%	26	10.7%	24
Wyoming	9.9%	15	10.6%	17	10.0%	16
UNITED STATES	13%	--	12.6%	--	12.3%	

Health insurance coverage for Montanans continues to be problematic. The percentage of Big Sky residents without health insurance increased from 15% to 17.1% between 2005 and 2006. The growing number of people without health insurance is not only a regional problem but also a nationwide one.

#### PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

State	2004	2005	2006	Rank
Idaho	14.5%	14.8%	15.4%	21
<b>Montana</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>16</b>
North Dakota	10.1%	11.0%	12.2%	33
South Dakota	11.2%	11.7%	11.8%	36
Wyoming	12.8%	14.6%	14.6%	23
UNITED STATES	14.9%	15.3%	15.8%	--

NOTE: Rankings are from highest percentage of people without health insurance coverage to the lowest.

### CONTACT

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### UPCOMING RELEASES

**August 2007**  
Income, Poverty, Health  
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